

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the present application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remains under examination in the application are presented below. The claims are presented in ascending order and each includes one status identifier. Those claims not cancelled or withdrawn but amended by the current amendment utilize the following notations for amendment: 1. deleted matter is shown by strikethrough for six or more characters and double brackets for five or less characters; and 2. added matter is shown by underlining.

1. (Currently Amended) A shifting device, comprising:

a housing;

a shift lever supported by the housing, wherein the shift lever is moved at least along a first manipulation axis and a second manipulation axis to select one of a plurality of shift positions, the first and second manipulation axes extending in different directions;

a non-contact position detecting mechanism capable of detecting changes of the position of the shift lever in both directions along the first and second manipulation axes for detecting a shift position selected by the shift lever, wherein the position detecting mechanism is formed as a single unit and includes a plurality of detecting devices and a single detection objective device, wherein the relative positions between the detecting devices and the detection objective device are variable, wherein the position detecting mechanism detects the selected shift position according to the relative positions; and

a moving mechanism, wherein, according to movement of the shift lever, the moving mechanism moves at least one of the group of the detecting devices and the detection objective device at least along a first movement axis and a second movement axis, the first and second movement axes extending in different directions,